

Lucien's  
Chronicles  
Way of the Architect

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2019 Manpaint



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## Prologue

[Lucien's perspective in timeline D18, year 17 of Slyph]

The brightest timeline he said. We were inside Stephen Rwright apartments. In this temporality, he was the Minister of Defense of Upirkly, so it was quite luxury. The world generally didn't look much different than my native timeline. "What is your concrete plan?" I asked Ste. Ste was looking at his reflection in the windows. "I will create a group... some you would qualify as erudites". The other Lucien – or rather Stefan, was thinking about something silently. "How will you introduce Simulcast technology in this world?" I asked him. "First, I need a new identity, a new name...". Obviously, he couldn't use either Lucien or Stefan identity, one was an owner of a textile company and the other a random teenager. If two exact individuals would be noticed, it would certainly raise red flags. "I will choose Edmond Enkloi, that doesn't sound bad." He decided. Stephen then said that he was going to add him in the database of Architect to not raise suspicion. After all he possess Akashic knowledge. He can know everything; shall he request to acknowledge an information. After our discussion, we all went in different directions to do our bidding. Like Ste, I transferred my soul in this timeline rather than bring my physical body. By doing so I also gained access to the memories of the Lucien of this timeline. "Edmond" brought his body instead. Having the body of a teenager would have hindered his projects. As I was going on my way to home, I looked around. The citizens all looked innocent and ignorant of what will come. It was up to us to fix this world. Bill Rwright was still one year in his second term. The vote to abolish democracy is going to be held in the year 21, so we still have a few years. Edmond believe Simulcast technology will save timeline, we will see. Even if we succeed, the already existing timelines won't be affected of course, I totally ignore what is the goal of The Lord of Knowledge here. There is an infinite number of timelines Even if this specific combination has yet to happened, there is surely one that is close enough. I assume it is by simple curiosity from him. I am doing this only because I am bored. I am Lucien and an immortal after all. I have seen empires and ideologies rise and fall. I am the only one walking on Dymunia that has witnessed the repetition of the eternal spiral of time with his very eyes. I have no faith in mortals.



## Chapter I

### Birdcage

*[Rosia's perspective]*

*I was always wondering what was outside. Being of course not allowed to leave my bedroom, I still had a lot of questions regarding this world. What caused the Great War? Why was I protected specifically? I learned the truth. My life has been one huge lie.*

*My parents (or rather my dad, because I rarely saw my mom) kept me in a bedroom for all of my childhood. I was told that there was a "Great War" outside and that I needed to be protected. I could not step outside my room, but I often heard my dad having conversation (that were not fully audible to me) with other men. One day my dad accidentally gave me a book that shouldn't have been here. I still remember the book title clearly to this day: Conflicts of Shamaria. Once I started reading it, I noticed a concept that I did not know of: religion. This concept was totally unknown to me, so one day I asked my dad what it meant. Big mistake. He called me a "failure" and drugged me, so that I would lose consciousness.*

*Once I opened my eyes, I was in a place unfamiliar to me. It was a dark corridor with men wearing white clothes talking to each other. I was on a hospital-like bed and my mouth was covered in bandages and my hands were tied down. I saw my father talking to one of the scientists. One of the scientists handed a paycheck to my father and I never saw him again. In the following months, some medical experiments were conducted on me. I didn't know the specific, but there was a lot of needles. I hate needles. I wanted to get out of here. One day an alarm went off. I ignored what it was for, but the scientists looked very worried. During the confusion a teenager who was an intern took my hand and lead me to one of the exits. Looking back, I really wonder why such laboratory would have an intern but whatever. As he opened the door, I saw the sun for the first time in my life. It was brighter than I expected. The intern shouted, "Go with Lucien, hurry!" before getting gunned down by the security guard. There was a man wearing a*

*black raincoat with a motorcycle, it was him. As I jumped on his seat, Lucien activated some strange device that he was hiding in one of his sleeves and the guards and I lost conscience after hearing the weird sound it made.*

## **Chapter II**

### **Helliosians**

I awakened in a dark room illuminated by a lamp. My body was lying in a bed. The man in a dark raincoat was sitting near me. He brought me something to drink. It was a slush and it was the best thing I drank in all of my life. "Who are you?" I asked. "My true name is Lucien Lecturnus" he said. "Come we will meet the others". As we were exiting the room, he noticed my hesitation to pass through the door frame. "Don't worry, you are free here" he said. I proceeded to meet the others. I was inside an organization called the Helliosian Intelligence Agency. Their goal was to fight the political party of Architech. I know nothing about politics and all that adult stuff, but Lucien saved me, so I will help him and his friends. Lucien then taught me how to fight with a utility knife. Apparently young elves like me were sometime kidnaped for multiple reasons. The most common one was to become an Imbole. Vampires drink blood, but biting on other vampires, elves or humans is illegal. There was however a black market for it, it was not usual that young elves were being held in basement while their blood was being drained on a daily or weekly basis. There was also illegal child labor. There are shady businesses that use them to make fake dragonhide satchels. He also taught me about religions, a concept that was alien to me. I executed many missions for the Helliosians. Most of them was stalking and listening to people. Beside Helliosians I did not have much friends thought. During my missions seeing people socializing made me realize my loneliness. I was not allowed to have any, probably to avoid leaking the HIA's existence. There was Sophia, a 17 year old human but, she was always busy. One day I asked master Lucien about friends. "Friends come and go." He said. "Ultimately, they are only asset that bring you information or that you use to entertain yourself". I asked what I was in his eye. "You are my sharpest tool in my box" he replied. "Reject the concept of love and friendship, such common vulgus things are futile, unless it serves a purpose". He was right. I need to think with logic and reject my emotions. One day a boy called Paul joined the idea. He apparently lost his memories or something like that. Regardless, he had no personally whatsoever. Talking to him was very boring, because he did not know much. The only thing we were able to do together were pretty playing multiplayer video game. After a short while, I noticed he was developing some kind of affection. I don't know if it was the thing called love or not, but I don't care. He is just another tool of the HIA. Just like me. I was quickly assigned to

be his mission partner early on. I mostly needed to defend him if needed, because he obviously didn't know how to fight. What I hated the most is that I had to explain everything to him, he was very clueless.

## Chapter III

### Dreams

[Year 09 of Slyph, Bill Rwright's perspective]

Father was fatally ill. He contracted Sanguinee. Mark Rwright, our father was one of the richest men of Dymunia. Despite all the money spent on treatment, death came to knock on his door. "Billy... come... " my father said on his deathbed. I approached to hear his last words. "All of my life I worked to make this world a better place..." he slowly said. Mark Rwright was the inventor of the Aphone. These smartphones could access any information almost anywhere. After the foundation of Architech, he dedicated a part of his wealth to the preservation of the environment. "I trust you and your brother to succeed me and to continue on my path...". He then closed his eyes for eternity. Bill and Stephen Rwright were silently mourning the death of their father. This is where everything began.

Bill recurrently had a dream. The Architect, a god his family worshipped came to visit him in his dreams. These visions would haunt him until his last breath. It was the city of Upirkly under the reign of a political party called Veritam. It was a brutal dictatorship led by a man called Aleister Payne. In this world, there were screens portraying face of the Great Leader everywhere. The fascist regime was actively hunting elves and livestreaming the execution of all "criminals". "This is the future..." the ghost-like Architect whispered. "He will use technology to create such a world...". Bill Rwright always had this nightmare in the same form, more or less.

[Year 17 of Slyph]

Bill Rwright was looking at the city of Upirkly through the windows of his office. The only way stops this grim prophecy was to take his place to make it also it never happened. Shortly after his father's death he was approached by The Conclave. He managed to put himself in a position to become the pawn of Aleister. Most of the Inner Conclave member were somewhat old and ignorant of technology. But Bill Rwright was not. He was therefore a valuable asset to them. Bill Rwright of course inherited a part of the wealth of his deceased father

but most importantly, he inherited the ring. The golden ring had the symbol of The Architect engraved on it. The ring was very precious because it was apparently dating back all the way back when his family were the monarchs in Nohorth. He however only found out its true nature later.

## Chapter IV

### Change

[Year 21 of Slyph]

Bill Rwright ran for president and was elected twice. He was basically the face of The Conclave. He did not have a real power to change things as the public believed; it was mostly because The Conclave allowed him to do certain things. These actions generally had the sole purpose to boost the confidence the public had in him. The Conclave started to talk about the abolishment of democracy. Bill was slowly becoming what he hated but he knew it. He was planning to overthrow The Conclave, but such task would be difficult. One day his brother introduced him to a man called Edmond Enkloi. He was apparently a neuroscientist who worked for the military and developed a formidable technology that he called Simultra. Stephen Rwright convinced the man to make a deal with Architech. Bill Rwright did not get all the technical aspects, but the device was pretty much capable of downloading knowledge directly into the brain and create computer-controlled dreams. He knew this would be a major turning point. With such technology, Aleister's world would never be able to happen. The president of Upirkly agreed to market the technology under Architech's banner. Things were going to change. Surely democracy would never be able to be abolished because people would surely seek political knowledge. The future was bright. He was certain about it. Edmond Enkloi was made lead developer of the ARCH ULTRA project. Even if he would not be able to physically destroy The Conclave, he will have the options to share his memories to the entire world. Bill Rwright even volunteered to get the memory of his dream extracted to use on test subject. Shortly after Bill Rwright had a revelation that changed his perspective on the very foundation of the world. A man with dark clothes was waiting for him outside of his office. His clothing was not really suited for office working. While he did not know him, he had a vague memory of seeing him often in his dreams. The man showed an identification piece proving he was one of the executives of Architech. Except he was not one yet in this temporality. He was also wearing a ring similar to the one Bill had. The president was totally mystified by the individual. "Who are you?" Bill Rwright said, astonished. "Maybe we should go talk in your office?" a voice said behind him, like if it were a reply to his question. Bill quickly realized it was the voice of his brother. He was holding a Simultra headset with his right



arm. The Minister of Defense, Stephen Rwright had a vile smile on his face. He was planning something. Once in the office, the man simply said, "I come from the future." In a serious tone. Stephen then putted a black SD card on the table. "Those are your memories, from the future." Bill was lost in his thoughts, confused. Lucien then proceeded to put the SD card in its slot on the Simultra helmet. This when Bill Rwright noticed that his brother also had an identical ring. He first thought it was unique, but it was apparently not.

## Chapter V

### Assault

[Lucien's perspective]

The president of Upirkly finished to view the memories of his future self. He was not pleased by what he saw and was horrified. He was scared of the world he governed in the memories. He knew it couldn't be a forgery, because creating fake memories was impossible, so it was the truth. "I became what I hated..." he slowly started. "But will you let this happened again?" Lucien boldly said. The president was shaking. "How could this have happened?!" he said in his mind. Surely it was the fault of The Conclave he thought. "We know the exact position of every member of the group", Stephen said while look at Upirkly in the windows. They need to be stopped. Everyone remained silent for a few minutes. Once Bill Rwright got his courage he declared: "I will mobilize the Architechian Security Forces ."

After an hour, every member of the police available were grouped in a room under the Black Tower. Bill Rwright was about to give a speech. There were about two hundred policemen wearing their white suite with the emblem of Architect on their armband. After gaining the silence, Bill Rwright started to talk. "Tonight, we are about to conduct a large-scale operation approved by the Ministry of Defense and Security" he started. A huge display showed the face of multiple men and women whom were part of The Conclave, especially the Inter section. "Those people have committed financial fraud and multiples violations against the Law of Upirkly" he said. "They think they are above law and order, but they are not!" The crowd cheered. Architech was mostly used as a propaganda tool by The Conclave. Now that propaganda would turn against them. The people were with Bill Rwright. The notion of a few rich people causing problem was not totally unknown. Now they finally got a chance to do something about it. Once everyone got dispatched, Bill Rwright turned to face his brother and Lucien. "It's now time to move forward in time!" Bill firmly said. A meeting of the Inner Conclave was scheduled tonight. Bill, Aleister and Stephen were in the group. He and his brother would essentially be a distraction for Aleister while waiting for the police to arrive. Meanwhile, Lucien prepared

Paul and Rosia to temporally join The Conclave. Aleister Payne wasn't exactly a young man. He was seeking two teenagers to indoctrinate them to eventually take his place. Those two were ideal puppets for this purpose. The original goal of the HIA was to dig dirt on Architech's reputation but not anymore. The winds have changed. Once the famous night came, everyone was ready for the operation. Lucien and "Edmond Enkloi" were at the head of Team 01. While Aleister Payne was revealing to the teenager unstoppable nature of Climate Change, we stormed in. Aleister Payne planned to create a global catastrophe by poisoning various water source across Dymunia. The plan obviously never came to fruition since it never happened in the original timeline. I guess he thought he had good intention due to his Arismatic Condition. I suppose he still had such warped worldview due to his status in society. Regardless I gave Bill Rwright the option to kill him. He did not hesitate a second. The policeman I chose all knew the deal about Mr. Payne, so their mouth will remains shut. Most other members of The Conclave were sentenced and imprisoned.

## Chapter VI

### Simultra

The vote for the abolishment of democracy was drawing near. But before, Architech released Simultra. It was a redesigned Simulcast headset. Unlike its previous version, this one was connected to a centralized Internet server. The device being able to control dreams and download knowledge, it became immensely popular quickly. Architech quickly ran out of stock. The plan of the Helliosian Intelligence Agency and Architech was to reveal the truth to all. The fact that they were manipulated. For this we used the memories of Paul. Paul was an "empty being" created by the Lord of Knowledge solely for this purpose. Rosia eventually managed to convince him to try it out after being hesitant for a while. Once we finally collected his knowledge of the truth, it was systematically downloaded to every Simultra user. Beside this, some people already started to share Simultra-compatible knowledge online. It was quite easy since the device had an SD slot that could contain memories and knowledge in binary format. However, most people used it to experience their own fantasies in hours-long dreams. The day finally came. Bill and Stephen Rwright put all their faith in Simultra to counter the abolishment. The Conclave may be destroyed but the damage was still done. But Simultra did not change anything: democracy was abolished anyway. I suppose its because people seek entertainment, not knowledge.

[Bill Rwright's perspective]

Bill Rwright was looking at the city of Upirkly, but this time at the top of the Black Tower. He was angered and deceived by his people. How they could be so blind? They could literally download knowledge in their head, yet they chose to distract themselves. The Minister of Dense was next to him. "Brother, do you remember the tales our father told us when we were little?" Stephen nodded. There was many stories and legends about individual possessing magical golden rings. The one the president was specifically referencing was the one about The Seventh Ritual. Apparently, a man would have created a cult that attracted the vilest individuals. It was a trap, using his magical ring, the man purged them out of existence. Bill Rwright obviously dismissed it as a simple legend, but with the recent events, he started to doubt. The ring was said to manifest one's will into reality. As the president was looking at Upirkly with hatred, his eyes gradually

turned green. He then suddenly realized how to use the ring, without knowing how he got such knowledge in the first place. "This world need to be purged!" declared Bill Rwright while raising his arm. His brother quickly realized what he was going to do. A green light emanated from the ring. Reality was being rewritten. The wish of the president was that those who did not care or acknowledge the truth would be purged out of existence. Once done, the heart of Bill stopped. He knew very well it would kill him. Bill saw it as the ultimate sacrifice, because with democracy abolished, Aleister's world was still a possibility. Only the smartest deserved this world.

## Chapter VII

### Reality

[Lucien's perspective]

Everyone was mourning. Most had lost at least one beloved person in this event that was called The Purge. Therefore, many decided to give up on reality to confine themselves in Simultran dreams. Around 75,2% of the global population just disappeared. The economy was wrecked. "The path to Inferlas is paved with good intentions." Stephen said. He was right, the world was now just an empty shell compared to its former self. Very few remained in reality. "I suppose the experiment of Hellios failed." declared Ste, not very bothered by the recent events. Lucien asked him what he meant by that. "Mortals are self-destructive, this was proven by the recent choices they made". Lucien and the Minister of Defense were walking in a street. There wasn't even a cat. Absolute silence ruled over the place. "I guess The Architect was right." Boldly said Ste. The sun was setting. "What will you do next?" the immortal asked. "Create a new world". Stephen considered that the world was trapped in an "eternal spiral of time". He thinks that every event is bound to repeat endlessly in one way or another. "I will break free from the eternal spiral of time." He said. This picked the curiosity of Lucien and asked what he would do. "I believe the problem lies within the souls themselves. " he said. "By achieving control of the souls" concluded Ste. The Lord of Knowledge was going to follow the way of The Architect. "You are aware that such world would be only a mere duplicate?" Lucien said. Stephen nodded. You could not travel backward in time, only create duplicates. This was a universal law of reality that Stephen obviously acknowledged with his Akashic powers. "All I need is more time." Stephen said. He was looking at Lucien. He was an immortal, he had all the time in the world, but not Ste. "What if we made a trade?" Stephen asked. His proposal was to take Lucien's immortality through magical means, thus undoing his curse. Lucien accepted without hesitation. As an immortal Lucien saw a lot of things, he was simply tired to live after all those 1075 years. As Stephen Rwright was about to kill Lucien vi. Lecturnus something stopped him. He suddenly felt something, he suddenly gained new knowledge. "The gods left us." He muttered. I suppose even the gods saw this world as a failed experiment, they moved to the next. "Just do it already!" abruptly said Lucien. He was getting impatient. Dying was his unique desire. He did not care for anything else. Stephen decided to execute his magic spell and

Lucien felt as if giant ice spike were transpiercing him. He felt down on his knees. The Lord of Knowledge was now immortal. The spell was transtemporal, it would apply to all Luciens of all times. Lucien was relieved. He would be finally be able to die. As he was laying on the ground, his eyes started to close. His life was fading away. Lucien was dead. After a few minutes, Ste decided to quit this temporality. He would create a new world where the World of Dreams would never happen. Nothing would stop from altering fate.

**END**